

Appln. No.: 10/502,241
Amdt. Dated: June 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 17, 2006

REMARKS

Restriction has been required as to one of the three species recited in claims 5-7.

Applicant has elected the species of claim 5 (claim 20 as renumbered by the Examiner). This species is drawn to the process of treating a surface in dental applications.

Original independent claim 1 (claim 16 as renumbered by the Examiner) has been amended to clarify that the treatment process is a blasting operation in which the erasing agent is propelled against the surface to be treated. Basis for this Amendment can be found in original claim 3 (claim 18 as renumbered by the Examiner), in the third paragraph on page 5 of the specification, and in the passage bridging pages 12 and 13 of the specification.

In addition, claim 1 has been amended to remove the feature of the erasing agent being substantially non-aqueous. Support for this Amendment can be found at the end of the main statement of the invention on page 3 of the specification. It is clear that this feature is optional. In addition, on page 5, the specification teaches that dry blasting may be utilized.

Claim 2 (renumbered by the Examiner as claim 17) is unchanged.

Claims 3-7 (renumbered by the Examiner as claims 18-22) have been canceled.

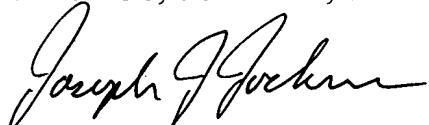
New claim 23 is based on original claim 5 (claim 20 as renumbered by the Examiner). New claim 24 is based on the disclosure in the third paragraph on page 4 of the specification.

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New claim 25 is based on the "non-aqueous" feature removed from amended claim 16, as indicated.

Respectfully submitted,

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